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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Tetsuya HORI et al.  
Serial No.: 09/988,994  
Filed: November 21, 2001  
For: **IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD**  
Group: 2615  
Examiner: Brian C. Genco

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MAR 12 2004

Technology Center 2600

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANIED WITH  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**March 8, 2004**

Sir:

Pursuant to an agreement reached with the Examiner in charge of the above-referenced application, as indicated in the Interview Summary dated on March 1, 2004, and in response to the final Office Action (Paper No. 17) dated on November 7, 2003, please entry the following amendments to the claims as follows.

**Listing of the Claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.

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